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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1947.

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Porpoises In Harbour

Large crowds this morning watched with fascinated interest two big schools of porpoises playing around Kellett Island.

Porpoises are fairly common in waters surrounding Hongkong, but it is not very often that they invade the centre of the harbour.

Some Chinese say that the appearance of porpoises in the harbour presages a typhoon, but weather experts declare they know of no cyclonic disturbances threatening Hongkong.

NOT ENOUGH PEOPLE TO DO THE JOB

Britain's Serious Manpower Shortage

London, Mar. 11.

The Labour Minister, Mr George Isaacs, told a sombre House of Commons to-day, "The fundamental fact is that Britain has not sufficient people to do all things that need to be done and to produce all the goods that are required to be produced."

Mr Isaacs spoke to a sparsely-filled House at the opening of the second day of the Labour Government's defence of its policies in Britain's worst economic crisis. Both Government and Opposition front benches, however, were filled when Mr Isaacs rose.

He was expected to be followed later by the Liberal leader, Mr Clement Davies, Conservatives Mr R. A. Butler and Sir John Anderson, and Minister of Defence A. V. Alexander.

MAN-DAY LOSSES

The debate will conclude to-morrow when Mr Winston Churchill will move a vote of no confidence in the Labour Government.

Mr Isaacs told the House that between V-J Day and February of this year, Britain had lost less than 4,500,000 man-days because of industrial disputes, compared with 41,500,000 man-days lost in the corresponding period after the last war.

The Minister dealt briefly with Government plans to increase Britain's labour strength, saying that 660,000 disabled persons now were employed, women were being encouraged to return to industry, workers were being asked to continue instead of retiring and 80,000 Poles were registered in the Polish resettlement corps, with more than 60,000 registered for jobs.—United Press.

EDITORIAL

Consider The Anomalies

AS we understand it, the taxation draft bill, in due course, is to be sent back to the Taxation Committee for study and possible revision, referred to the Executive Council for further consideration and recommendation, and then brought before the Legislative Council for adoption. Before this final stage is reached, doubtless the Taxation Committee and our governing bodies will have satisfied themselves that there is general public hostility to proposed direct taxation at this time. It is also to be hoped they will have taken cognizance of a number of anomalies and strange features contained in the draft bill.

Reference has already been made to one—the implied intention of making HCL allowances taxable. A second is the omission of any suggestion as to what use the additional revenue will be put. There is a vague hint in a quotation from the Taxation Committee's report of December, 1946 which reads: "It is a matter of paramount importance that we should raise sufficient revenue to balance our recurrent expenditure during the coming financial year." But there is an impression abroad that the colony's revenues have increased far beyond the limits of expectation; in which case such a drastic step as income tax appears to be unwarranted. Alternative and less painful ways of raising required revenue might well be found. These we are prepared to go into more fully at a later stage. For the moment, the draft bill on taxation gives wide scope for thought and query.

One such section is that dealing with Property Tax. Here, it is disclosed, it is the intention of Government to make the tax payable in the first place by the person, whether owner, agent, or occupier, who pays the assessed rates in respect of lands or buildings so taxed. Normally, that is the landlord, but to-day many tenants are having to pay rates in addition to rent and water charges. Therefore they are liable to a double dose of direct taxation—once on income and once on rates. This is palpably inequitable, placing as it does additional burden on people least able to bear it. It constitutes a vicious form of double taxation in that it attacks an earned income geared to meet essential living costs. Then there is the peculiarity in the draft bill dealing with the "ascertainment of assessable income." From the four sub-clauses, it appears that while most will pay on income previously earned, others will virtually pay as they earn, while another class is liable to assessment before they earn a cent. The intention is quite clear, Government is greedily going to grab every cent it can lay hands on in the first year of assessment, irrespective of inequity, hardship and untenable precedents.

Quickly-Made Peace With Japan Advocated

McArthur's Views Supported

Washington, Mar. 12.

Spokesmen for several members of the Allied Far East Commission approved to-day General Douglas MacArthur's recent expressions that he favoured a quick formal peace with Japan.

It is likely a large proportion of the Commission's 11 members are favourable to MacArthur's suggestion. But although the members said individually they favoured an immediate treaty with Japan, none allowed the use of his name. So far, the Commission has not considered the Japanese peace treaty.

The group is at present principally concerned with Japanese reparations.

Commission members doubt if they possess the authority to consider the treaty.

RESTRICTED AUTHORITY

Specifically, the Commission's authority is confined "to formulate policies, principles and standards in conformity with the fulfilment by Japan of its obligations under the terms of surrender which may be accomplished."

Additional matters may be assigned to the Commission by agreement among the participating governments—including the United States, Russia, Britain and China which holds veto powers.

Members of the Commission hold this is the only means whereby the Commission could acquire treaty authority.

During the Commission's visit to Japan in January, 1946, MacArthur told the group privately that he hoped a treaty would be concluded quickly.

He seemingly felt then, that the Commission possessed the needed authority.

The commissioners recalled MacArthur's 1946 statement and expressed belief that the Supreme Commander is making by treaty opinions public in an effort to get action.

STRICT SECRECY

The United States is preparing the ground work for the Pacific treaty. But the State department is clanking all preparations with the strictest secrecy. The Department declines even to reveal what officials are engaged on the project or the nature of their deliberations.

Other governments participating on the Commission are also believed to be formulating their positions regarding the Japanese peace. But they also decline to discuss the preparations.

How the Pacific peace conference will be called and who will participate are among the questions awaiting answers.

The opinion current in Commission circles is that the United States as the principal occupying power, is likely to inaugurate the move and the nations actively engaged in the war with Japan will participate.

It was pointed out that chances for action on the Japanese treaty, hinges somewhat on the progress made at the current Moscow meeting.

MacArthur is understood to feel that Japan has a capable self-government which he considers prerequisite to the empire treaty.

MacArthur's reported belief that no impediment stands in the way of a formal peace is unofficially reflected in American and Far East Commission circles, but there still is no evidence of active moves toward an actual accomplishment.—Associated Press.

SCHOOLBOYS ON MURDER CHARGE

Stafford, Mar. 11.

"I will speak for the lot and tell the truth. We got fed up with school. We planned to shoot the Headmaster..."

Four boys—two of them 15 years of age and two 16—stood on tiptoe to peer over a Court dock to-day and hear the prosecution read this statement and charge them with the murder of an instructor in the reform school where they were inmates.

The statement was made by one of the four, 16-year-old Frank Gittings, when the boys were arrested on February 15 after the instructor was found shot in the school's bathroom.

Murder charges against six others arrested with them were dismissed, but the four pleaded guilty to conspiring to murder the school's headmaster and were returned to their cells for a later hearing.

"ALL IN THE PLOT"

On trial with Gittings were Gerald Cwley, 15, Henry Jacobs, 16, and William Smith, 15. Gittings said they had not intended to kill the instructor, Peter Fieldhouse, but only to tie him up before they shot the headmaster, Thomas Dawson, with rifles which they stole from the school armory.

The prosecution said Fieldhouse saw them with the guns and they killed him, then escaped from the school.

"We were all in the plot and we were all as bad as one another," Gittings said. "We did not intend to kill Mr Peter, but we were determined to kill the headmaster because he had always stopped our money and our licences. If you send us back there, we will do him even now."

The prosecution said that because of the boys' ages, there was little likelihood they would be sentenced to death even if found guilty.—United Press.

N.Z. CATTLE FOR CHINA

Auckland, N. Z., Mar. 12.

Several hundred New Zealand stud sheep and cattle are on their way to China in the American cattle steamer, Lindenwood Victory, to improve herds decimated by the Japanese.

The sheep and cattle will be distributed by UNRRA to agriculture colleges and universities for breeding purposes—in devastated areas of China.

The livestock comprises 50 pedigree Corriedale sheep presented to Mr. Rewi Alley, New Zealand leader of the Chinese Co-operative Movement, by New Zealand breeders, and 400 pedigree cattle and 1,000 stud sheep purchased by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Association.

The 50 Corriedales will be taken to Shanghai, and present plans are to fly them to the cold northwest provinces to avoid the hazards of a 2,000-mile overland journey by river, road and track through dangerous country.—Associated Press.

ADMIRAL AUBOYNEAU

Paris, Mar. 11.

Admiral Philippe Auboyneau, former commander of the French navy in Indo-China, has arrived here from Saigon.—Reuter.



SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS

TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

Preparatory Talks Open In London

London, Mar. 11.

Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, to-day opened discussions at Spencer House, London, in preparation for the meeting in Geneva next month of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment.

The talks which are expected to last three weeks are being attended by representatives of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Southern Rhodesia, Newfoundland, Burma, Ceylon and the colonial empire, not all of whom will attend the Geneva conference.

"I believe," Sir Stafford Cripps said, "that we shall find in working through the manifold difficulties of the United Nations that the climate of agreement may be more readily reached in economic than in the political field and perhaps more easily still in the social field."

"I do not minimise the difficulties ahead of us. To negotiate on a selective basis over the whole range of modern tariffs is hard enough even when only two or three different countries are concerned." (Continued on Page 4)

STOP PRESS

Court Inquiry Into Collision

The Marine Court formed to investigate the collision near Hell's Wharf between the Police and the Police Launch No. 16 last Monday, which resulted in the death of a European police officer and two Chinese crewmen, of the launch, opened this morning under the presidency of the Harbour Master, Mr J. J. J. J.

After the Governor's order convening the Court had been read an adjournment of ten minutes was made to enable the Court to inspect a police launch, similar in type to No. 16 which was sunk.

Placed in a prominent position in the court was a large scale drawing detailing part of the harbour where the collision occurred. Nearby were small models of the vessels for the court's use.

Mr A. Pittendrigh, Senior Superintendent of Water Police is appearing for the Police, while Mr J. T. Prior is representing the owners of the Talposhan (the Tal On Steamship Navigation Co.) and the Master, Capt. J. R. Durup. Witnesses will include Capt. Durup, Mr H. Clark, chief officer of the Talposhan, and members of the crews of the two vessels involved in the accident.

BODIES RECOVERED

It is learnt that the bodies of the two Chinese seamen drowned in the collision between the Talposhan and Police Launch No. 16 have been recovered. The sunken police launch has now been raised.

NO NEWS OF PILOT WHO BALED OUT

No further news has yet been received about the Seafire which was reported to have crashed in the Mira Bay area yesterday after the pilot had baled out.

A destroyer and a police launch have been sent to Mira Bay to make a search, while land parties are out looking for the pilot.

Naval officials this morning said they could not yet disclose the identity of the pilot.

No Formal Moscow Discussions On China

Moscow, Mar. 11.

General George Marshall, U.S. Secretary of State, and Mr Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary, to-day agreed to discussion of the China question among the Big Three powers outside the Foreign Ministers' council meetings, and M. Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Foreign Commissar, indicated Soviet acceptance.

Mr Bevin turned down M. Molotov's suggestion that after the meetings the three powers should issue a communique.

Discussion of China ended after Mr Bevin suggested it was improper even to discuss the question at Council meetings without China, and General Marshall concurred.

M. Molotov said he had only intended to suggest informal meetings yesterday and still thought that, since the public was interested in the matter, a communique should be issued.

No definite decision was reached on the matter, but the Ministers seemed to agree and it became apparent that informal three-power sessions on China would be held during the Ministers' stay in Moscow.—United Press.

EARLIER ATTITUDE

London, Mar. 11.

Henry Cassidy, National Broadcasting Company correspondent, reported from Moscow to-day that the Secretary of State, Gen. George C. Marshall, is willing that the question of China be discussed by the Big Four provided that China is invited to participate in the discussions.

Cassidy said Marshall was explaining this position to to-day's meeting of the Council of Ministers. He said Marshall's position was that "we have nothing to hide and we shall be glad to talk with any properly interested party about the unification of a democratic China and the withdrawal of Allied troops from that country. However, we feel that the question should not be taken up officially by the Council unless China is present."

Cassidy said if Russia insisted on discussing the Chinese question then China would have to be invited to the round table.—United Press.

Council's report, it was learned to-day, informs the Ministers that a law has been passed by the Allied High Commission in Germany abolishing the state of Prussia.

By taking note of this decision and endorsing it, the Ministers yesterday set the final seal on the abolition of the most formidable aggressor military state of modern times. Britain took the initiative, German experts here recall, by raising the question in the Control Council on May 1 last year. The United States and France supported the proposal to destroy the Prussian state and promote its component independent kingdoms and duchies such as Hanover and Schleswig-Holstein—to the status of member (states) with local governments of their own.

The Soviet representative on the Control Council opposed the move at that time on the ground that such a decision could be taken only at a government level.

This remained the Soviet attitude until recently when the preparation of the Control Council's report to the Foreign Ministers was in its final stages.

The Ministers' deputies for Germany appear to have reverted in Moscow to a role of daily preparatory work drawing up the agenda for the Ministers.

The deputies for Austria, on the other hand, will continue drawing up the draft of the Austrian treaty working as a semi-independent body.

They agreed, at their first meeting here to-day, to re-appoint various military, political and economic committees which already existed in London.—Reuter.

The economic sections of the report are also believed to disclose that Russia is highly critical of the British and American interpretation of the reparations clauses of the Potsdam decisions, while Britain and the United States are equally critical of Russia's conduct in the economic sphere inside her own zone of occupation.

Though the threats made at one stage by Lieutenant-General Lucian D. Clay, the U.S. Representative on the Control Council, to present a separate report have not yet materialised, the existing document is regarded as being composed of a series of charges and counter-charges rather than a series of joint recommendations.

Liquidation Decision

Yesterday's decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers to liquidate Prussia, is the outcome of nearly a year's discussion in the Control Council in Berlin. The Control

Big Haul From Hongkong Ship

Sydney, Mar. 12.

Australian Customs officials seized tens of thousands of American cigarettes and other undeclared dutiable goods from the liner Taping on its arrival in Australia from Hongkong and Kure.

At the North Queensland port of Cairns Customs men took possession of 4,000 cigarettes, 46 strings of pearls and 100 gus fishing lines.

At Sydney, investigators made two raids on the vessel, grabbed 48,000 American cigarettes, 18 strings of pearls, silk pyjamas and scarves. They had not been declared dutiable goods when the liner berthed.

Customs men said they believed members of the crew had planned to smuggle the contraband ashore. American cigarettes bring around £3 Australian a carton of 200 on the Australian black market.—Associated Press.

Australia Establishing Rocket Range

New York, Mar. 12.

Australia is starting the establishment of a 3,000 mile rocket range, but to stretch that far the course has to extend about 2,000 miles beyond land.

The range is a belt planned to be about 200 miles wide. It crosses the continent diagonally like a shoulder-to-belt ribbon.

It is starting at Mount Eba in Southern Australia, 800 miles from Adelaide. It crosses mostly desert land where there are a few aboriginals and ranches. The sea between Ebra and Shellborough. In that stretch white habitations do not extend far inland from the coast.

Precisely what will be done with these habitations is not told in the information sent here, but that is no present problem because the range will start with a length of only 300 miles.

The second stage of construction will extend the rocket flights to a distance of 1,100 miles all over land, to the edge of the continent.

The 3,000 miles will carry the rockets over water, in the direction of India, and directly toward Christmas Island, the first land on the water end. But Christmas Island is 3,000 miles from the Australian shore line, so that more than 4,000 miles flight would be needed to reach that observation point.

TOWN TO BE BUILT

Only the centre strip of the 200 mile wide range is to be used. It is expected that accuracy of the first short flights will be built up so that at all times the projectiles will remain near the centre.

Adelaide is to be the source of the rockets and other flying things, either for assembly, or possibly for manufacturing them. A new township is to be set up near Mount Eba for workers and their families. This town is planned to start with about 500 inhabitants.

The range is named the guided projectile and supersonic pilotless aircraft project. It is to cost about \$20,000,000. It is said to be the only suitable area for such a range in the British Empire.

Stories have been published that huge desert areas will be blasted by explosives. Highly improbable is the prediction of the projectors of the range. At first only non-explosive missiles will be fired. After accurate control is obtained, then explosive war heads are expected to be guided to safe areas.—Associated Press.

STATUES OF ROYALTY FOR OUR STATUE SQUARE

Statues of Royalty may soon be seen again in Hongkong's present statueless Statue Square. And it is a race between Queen Victoria and King George VI as to whose statue will make first appearance.

In early 1942, the Japanese removed all the bronze statues and monumental fittings from the Square and sent them to Japan. The statue of Queen Victoria, which used to occupy the central position, was discovered in Kobe last summer by Allied occupation authorities, and sent back to Hongkong together with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank lions and the statue of Sir Thomas Jackson, former Bank manager.

It was, however, in a damaged condition, and portions of the statue are missing. Efforts are being made to secure replacements of these portions before the statue is re-erected. The statue of King George VI is

a new one, which was ordered for the centenary celebrations of the Colony in 1941. Work on it had to be stopped because of the war, but it has now been completed and is ready for shipment here. The statue is 10 feet high, and is the work of Mr Gilbert Ledward, R.A. It cost \$23,000.

It is learned authoritatively that it will probably be set up in Statue Square, but the exact site is not yet decided.

No information is available regarding the fate of the other statues of Royalty removed by the Japanese, and no decision has yet been taken to replace them by new statues.

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...and your heart goes with him!

Edward G. ROBINSON

in **Columbia Pictures**

Mr. Winkle goes to War

RUTH WARRICK • TEE • SON • BOB HAYMES

Produced by JACK MOSS

Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN

Sitting on the Fence

by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

THE Sparrow's beak, sticking out of the bedclothes, was red with blowing and wiping when his wife arrived back in the Nest after spending a week with her mother.

On the Sparrow's bedside table there was a number of miniature medicine and whiskey bottles, all empty.

"Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear," said his wife, taking off her little pork-pie hat, "this always happens when I leave you for a minute."

"It was worth it," said the Sparrow.

"Whatever do you mean by that?" asked his wife, "when I've rushed back to look after you."

"When you are alone," said the Sparrow, glancing at the empty bottles, "everybody looks after you."

"And a nice way to do it, too," said his wife, clearing the little bottle away.

"Very nice," said the Sparrow.

"They ought to be ashamed of themselves whoever they are," said his wife. "They might have killed you."

"There isn't enough Scotch in the country," said the Sparrow.

"Did Dr. Crow call?" asked his wife.

"Frequently," said the Sparrow.

"What did he say?"

"He told me a lot of funny stories," said the Sparrow. "Some were pretty good."

"That's a fine way for a doctor to carry on," said his wife. "Didn't he feel your pulse or anything?"

"Oh yes," said the Sparrow.

"And look at your tongue!"

"Of course," said the Sparrow.

"What did he say about it?"

"When he saw my tongue," said the Sparrow, "he had to have a Scotch himself."

"Well I never," said his wife, "and I thought you were all right with the doctor looking after you."

"I was," said the Sparrow.

"I wonder you're still alive," said his wife.

"So do I," said the Sparrow, "after the party."

"The party," said his wife. "You mean to say you had a party with 'flur'?"

"Finest thing in the world," said the Sparrow.

"Who came to it?" asked his wife.

"Well," said the Sparrow, "there was the doctor..."

"Whatever was he doing at a silly party like that?"

"Looking after me," said the Sparrow.

"What about his other patients?" asked his wife.

"It was his night off," said the Sparrow.

"Did he think he was doing you any good by such behaviour?"

"I don't know if he thought so," said the Sparrow, "but he certainly did."

"How?" asked his wife.

"Before it was over," said the Sparrow, "he was drinking my medicine, and I was drinking his Scotch. I think that did me a lot of good."

"It was about time I came home," said his wife.

"Maybe," said the Sparrow.

"If I hadn't, you'd have been flying to that awful Tree Tops Club in a dressing gown."

"I was thinking of it," said the Sparrow. "How's your mum?"

"All right except for her nasty cough."

"And her nasty headache, rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica and dyspepsia?" asked the Sparrow.

You shouldn't laugh at my mother," said his wife. "She's not at all well."

"Ask Dr. Crow to pay a visit," said the Sparrow. "He'll soon fix her."

"Good night," said his wife.

Dream encounter

HE had a long, narrow, rubbery face exactly 15 inches by four inches at the widest part, and his big, brown eyes were as big and brown and dead as the eyes of a dead cow.

He was driving me in a car at 93½ miles an hour along a cliff road 8 ft. wide with a sheer drop of a mile and a half on the right.

When he spoke it was like a sleepy Cockney giving a poor imitation of a BBC announcer. He wore a red bowler hat and bright green gloves.

"Do you know who I am?" he asked in his sleepy voice.

I said no, I didn't.

"I'm the crook with the cultured voice," he said. "You must have read about me."

I said yes, I had.

"He wore a mask," the night watchman told a reporter last night, and he pointed a revolver at me, saying keep your trap shut or I'll shoot the liver out of you. He spoke in a cultured voice."

"And that's you?" I said to him.

"That's me," he said, "so I've got to keep moving."

WILLIAM HICKEY NOT FAIR GAME

SO many birds are being shot for the pot that some of Britain's rare species are threatened with extinction.

This is not wild-fowling; slaughter is wholesale and even bird sanctuaries are systematically raided. What goes in a game pie nowadays is nobody's business—and there's the rub.

The law is chaotic. Quite openly London poulterers are selling plover and curlew. There is no reason why not, it is perfectly legal, and so long as voracious and unthinking people will buy, the birds will be shot. Unfortunately, there is no public conscience where food is concerned.

From August 1 to February 28 is the open season, and birds which we are apt to think "protected" mostly are not.

PRESTON DONALDSON, energetic and enthusiastic secretary of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, was telling me about the private member's Bill ready and waiting for Parliament.

It would standardise and simplify existing regulations. All birds would be protected except such pests as wood pigeon and carrion crows, and there would be an open season, after breeding time, for wild-duck and birds good to eat.

Northern Ireland has led the way with this sensible law. But private members' time is nationalised. Chances for the Bill are nil, and for birds about the same.

VISIT to a radio variety broadcast from the Aeolian Hall in Bond-street renewed my love of stage-variety.

Two senses are always better than one, and sight and sound have long been married. When parted they are as incomplete as bacon without egg.

Credit-line "Produced by..." in radio programmes has never interested me.

Yet watching MICHAEL NORTH, a man-mountain of galvanic cheerfulness, was an eye-opener. All 17 stone on tiptoe, eyes on eight microphones at once, he finger-flipped players to action, shushed the or-

chestra with a squiggle of his nose and made the choir as effectively as a woman kneading bread.

I have new respect for the hard-working and so far as I am concerned, mentally-malicious craft of production.

MAIL brings Air Ministry invitation for a cocktail party "to mark the inauguration of the Department of the Air Member for Technical Services."

It is printed on one half, one side only, of best ivory card 14 inches by 12. The other half, again one side only, is filled with a blurb.

There are to be economy cuts in the Civil Service.

THE Society of Women Artists should change its name and rid itself of self-conscious inferiority. Current exhibition in Grafton is too good to advertise a sex-complex. Only prices are fancy; these women have mostly out-grown pretty-pretty like flowers in pots and sun-bleached over Como. They are artists, and that should be enough.

Royal Academy's senior academicians must watch their step; the domestic interiors by FREDERICK ELWELL's wife are "better than good." I like, too, the firm lines and hard colour of CORA GORDON, but then I always have done. The only notable absentee is LAURA KNIGHT; she is the president.

PROMISE by Mr. CHUTER EDE that senior police posts will be filled by men from the ranks does not entirely convince London policemen that promotion-road is now wide open, will be little stimulus to recruitment unless practice is changed. They feel that the country's biggest police force ought to have provided a man for the latest appointment to an assistant-commissioner post at Scotland Yard. New man is Colonel ARTHUR EDWIN YOUNG, able, and affable, but a Pompey-ranker.

IRON rims of Irish State coach, built for Queen Victoria's fourth visit to Ireland in 1860, were rubber-tired for the first time for the royal procession to open Parliament. New team of greys given by Queen Wilhelmina was not yet trained to pull the heavier golden state coach which weighs seven tons. Pre-war team pensioned.

Training is job of Crown Equerry: horsey, Irish, Sir DERMOT MCMONROUGH KAVANAGH, who promises Windsor Greys this year.

SNIPPED from a London evening by reader C. A. WHEATLEY:—Sixty-six years a barber, Mr. C. Hazell, who claims to be Britain's oldest hairdresser, is still working, aged 65.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

MY Staff Baking Correspondent reports that a newly created department of chartered accountants is being set up to help the bakers to count, recount, return, file in triplicate and re-recount their B.U.S., T.L.s, F.N.s, muffin folios, flour counterfoils, cake certificates, crust permits and so on.

A special flying squad of accountants will travel from baker to baker certifying returns and checking non-returns. Other accountants will act as liaison officers between the department and the various regional baking officers and Food Ministry registrars. They will all be compelled to join the Coupon - Counters Union. But not Mrs. Winkle, who has nothing whatever to do with all this.

You can see this coming

AN article describing how the Queen Elizabeth "turned her newly painted nose" towards the berth prepared for her—well, you can see what I'm going to say, a mile away. The owner of many a newly painted nose did the same thing during that trip.

Sue's plan

INTERVIEWED recently about the rumour that he contemplated

NANCY No Laughing Matter



POCKET CARTOON



According To Culbertson

(Copyright 1947, by Ely Culbertson)

There are very few "absolute" rules in bridge, but the following comes very close to that classification. When your partner passes your double of a one-bid, telling you he expects to defeat even that low contract—lead trumps! Note this typical case:

North, dealer.

North-South vulnerable.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 5 4		♠ 10 9 8	
♥ 6 4 2		♥ J 10 3	
♦ 3		♦ K 10 9 4	
♣ 10 7 4 3 2		♣ 8	
WEST		SOUTH	
♠ A K Q 10		♠ A K 7 6 5	
♥ A Q 7 5		♥ 2	
♦ K J 10		♦ 3 2 8 5	
♣ A Q 6		♣ A Q 6	

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

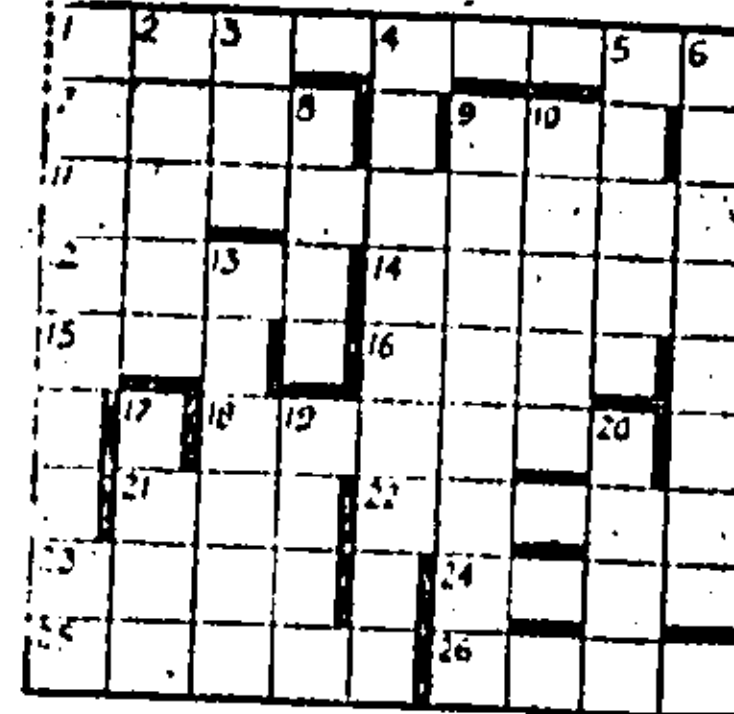
West opened the king of hearts and continued the suit, much to his partner's anguish. South ruffed and returned a low diamond. West put up the queen, but East overlooked with the diamond king in order to return the queen of spades.

The trump lead was too late, however, to do much damage. South won with the spade ace, ruffed a diamond in dummy, and managed to win another of his own small trumps by ruffing one of dummy's hearts. South later made the king of spades and the ace of clubs, and was therefore set only one trick. He could consider himself pretty lucky to get out with the loss of only 200 points!

If West had made the proper opening lead of a trump, the story would have been quite different. South would win and return a diamond, and East would take the trick to lead a second round of trumps. This would knock out South's remaining high trump, and East would be able to draw the rest of the trumps whenever he regained the lead. South would make only his two top trumps and the ace of clubs (he might lose the latter if he were not careful) and his loss would be 1,100 points!

West's bad choice of the opening lead (and continuation) cost his side 900 points—the value of an average rubber!

CROSSWORD



18. They assist in travelling (6)
19. Out. (6)
20. Oblivion. (5)
21. The stack in this brickyard. (4)
22. Notice. (4)
23. Deserts for this. (5)
24. Ditto. (4)

25. A hen of the flock. (8)
26. The skin coat of the Eskimo. (6)
27. Showed the way. (3)
28. Green woodpeckers. (6)
29. Swiftness. (5)
30. G. Trade. (8)
31. Is in return usually followed by a decree. (4)
32. Smallness. (6)
33. Unaccompanied. (6)
34. Pile used to move a punt while sailing. (6)
35. His name was famous. (7)
36. Expanse of water. (6)
37. Changed theme. (4)

38. What you may expect when stars (4-5)
39. Women's warlike. (6)
40. Birdless pattern. (3)
41. Grasses in (4-5)
42. They are (10-11) in one sense. (4)
43. Sort of pilot who doesn't will hold. (6)
44. Gains. (4)

45. Solution of yesterday's puzzle: Across: 1. Bird. 2. Insurance. 3. Headly. 4. Chair. 5. Path. 6. Love. 7. Fire. 8. (rate) 25. 9. Vined. 10. Pines. 11. Pineapple. 12. Nymph. 13. Didi. 14. Pines. 15. (name) 6. 16. (name) 8. 17. (name) 13. 18. (name) 17. 19. (name) 22. 20. (name) 22. 21. (name) 22. 22. (name) 22. 23. (name) 22. 24. (name) 22. 25. (name) 22. 26. (name) 22. 27. (name) 22. 28. (name) 22. 29. (name) 22. 30. (name) 22. 31. (name) 22. 32. (name) 22. 33. (name) 22. 34. (name) 22. 35. (name) 22. 36. (name) 22. 37. (name) 22. 38. (name) 22. 39. (name) 22. 40. (name) 22. 41. (name) 22. 42. (name) 22. 43. (name) 22. 44. (name) 22. 45. (name) 22.

When You Feel Tired and Restless

take **Elliott's Nerve** and **Brain Tonic**

On Sale at All Dispensaries



Women *This Space Every Day* BEAUTY ARTS By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Dorothy Lamour for Lois Leeds.

Ask yourself some searching questions!

ASK YOURSELF!

Do I know the colours that are best suited for my complexion? Do I ever study the contour of my head before selecting a hat? Do I know the makeup shades that are not only new but becoming to me?

Have I neglected myself and just "let myself go"? Hadn't I better do something about it? Do I make any effort to walk well? Do I attend to the little tips and tears? Or do I just pin things up?

Do I go through my cupboards or closets and try to match up accessories and clothes? Do I intend to improve my appearance—or not?

Do you ever stop and "take stock" of yourself? Do you ask yourself these questions?

There are so many things that you can do to improve your appearance. Of course, if you are beautiful and have a perfect figure, this doesn't even apply to you—and you won't be reading this anyhow!

Every woman must have a certain amount of vanity, she must put a valuation on her Personal Charm. If you think that you possess possibilities of becoming a Beauty, your goal will be easily reached.

But even the Beauty should take stock of her charms. To keep your

Beauty at shining perfection also requires work. It isn't easy to be really well groomed. It is so easy NOT to brush your hair, so easy NOT to cleanse your skin before going to bed. It is easy to pin up the hem of a ripped dress, so easy NOT to bother about a new and more becoming hairdo! Well, if you follow the Easy Way you will never improve.

So many women refuse to face the issue—and themselves—in the mirror. Do, at least, ask yourself these questions and follow up on your own answers!

Worth's Week Of Style

Britain began to stake her claim to the world's fashion championship when Worth opened a week of style premieres in late February with a glittering spring collection that drew buyers and clothes experts from three continents.

Madame Elspeth Champcommunal, designer for Worth, filled her present and gold salon with a varied collection that covered everything from morning wear to dinner gowns, including dresses, coats and suits.

The features of the collection were picture dresses for evening wear with a "Velasquez Hip" effect—taller, squarer panniers as against the more rounded, so-called "Freudian Hip." Fencil silhouettes for coats and skirts. Short skirts for suits. Smaller waist-lines—"breathless waists," Mme. Champcommunal called them. Shoulders dropping slightly.

"Not yet back to a natural shoulder," said the designer, "but less artificial than last season."

Evening gowns showed advancing décolleté—deep V-cut in front and V or square cut at the back. One of the most striking gowns was pinned only on the left shoulder with extreme décolleté, on the right side.

Representative of 50 items in the collection were:

"En Voyage"—a coat in natural camel hair with a suggestion of a cane effect on the left shoulder.

"Elegance"—a beautiful white strapless evening dress making lavish use of embroidery for the first time since the war.

"Enfant du Paradis"—a full-skirted, strapless evening gown in pastel blue and pink striped nylon.

—United Press.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



COPY, 1947 BY BEN BOWMAN, INC., N. Y. & N. J. & N. C. & N. D.

"TODD ALMIGHTY" DIRECTS YELLOW RIVER PROJECT

Second of a series of four articles
By JOHN RODERICK
Associated Press Staff Correspondent

Religion speaks of the faith which moves mountains. As an engineer, O. J. Todd, an American, thinks in terms of moving rivers, specifically, the Yellow River, one of the greatest in the world.

Chief engineer of the great UNRRA project to restore "China's Sorrow" to its pre-1938 northern course, and thus reclaim millions of acres of now flooded farmland, his primary interest is that of a technical man. Veteran of 30 years of engineering in China, much of it closely connected with international relief work, he is not unfamiliar with the human element involved.

Window On The World

Paris.—Children watching a newsreel in a Brest Cinema suddenly shouted, "Look, there's Peter!" They had recognised a former playmate who had been missing from home after air raids on Brest in 1944. Peter had been found wandering by French Red Cross officials who had sent him to a Paris Hostel. The newsreel showed Peter at a Christmas party in the hostel.

WINDY CITY ANXIOUS

Chicago.—Chicago has decided to compete against Athens, Helsinki and Detroit for the honour of holding the next Olympic Games. The clinching argument with Chicagoans was that in 1932 tourists spent \$11,101,000 in Los Angeles.

JERRY JANDER

New York.—The electron gun is no longer a secret. Nearly two years ago, the six-foot-high frequency tubes ceased diffusing bursts of electrons to jam German radar stations and let the Lancasters and Fortresses through.

BUDDHIST COMPLAINT

Colombo.—The fox-trot "When Buddha Smiled" has hurt the sensitive Buddhists of Ceylon. A request has been made for the government to order the withdrawal of the sale of the record. Not one has been sold in Ceylon to date.

WOLVES AT THE DOOR

Madrid.—A wolf pack attacked the mountain village of Puebla de Sanabria, in northern Spain. They surrounded three small houses and tried to force their way in. After a fierce fight, several men, armed with bayonets, broke the wolf. Two animals were killed and several men were severely bitten.

SMASH BLACK MARKET

Amsterdam.—In an effort to smash the black market in cigarettes, the Dutch have introduced a scheme to sell 20,000,000 ration free cigarettes at the regulation price plus a six shillings tax per packet of 20—the tax to go to charity. Even with the tax, the price is below the old black market rate. Travellers will only be allowed to bring in 200 cigarettes a month.

HER SON EMBARRASSED

Chicago.—Mrs. Vashti Macmillan, a university professor's wife, sued to prevent religious teaching to children in free state schools—even when parents give written consent. Her 16-year-old son is embarrassed, she says, when other kiddies troop out to services. An Illinois court threw out the case. The Supreme Court refused to listen. Now she is appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court.

SHE WAS 123

Madrid.—Zola Paredes, who died recently, was 123 years old. She did her own housework up to her death, and was never ill in bed for a day during her lifetime. She leaves seven 70-year-old sons, 25 grandsons and 21 great-grandchildren.

SPANGLES

Beilers.—Two darling gangsters walked out of the prison here by the front door after dragging all the guards. Augustin Mela, serving a life sentence and Jean-Louis Pujol, slipped heavy sleeping draughts into the guards' morning coffee. When they were asleep they easily unlocked all gates and walked out. GOLD!

Wellington.—Coromandel, 40 miles from Auckland, is buzzing with talk of a gold strike. A Maori chipped specimens from a reef uncovered by bulldozer operations. He has taken out miner's rights and is having the specimens analysed. Men are rushing to stake claims.

NEW ANGLE

New York.—A motherly woman leaned over a counter in the Des Moines Bank and Trust Company. She held a hypodermic needle pointed at teller, saying: "I have enough stuff here to blow this place to pieces and myself with it. get busy." He handed her about \$500 and she sauntered out. An hour later she was picked up, minus money and hypodermic.

MAIDEN VICTORY

Capetown.—The 14-year-old British colt, Thorium, which was bought in England for only £800, won the 27,500 Cape Metropolitan Handicap, scoring a runaway victory in record time for a nine furlong race—one minute fifty and four-fifths seconds. The race proved a great coup for South African champion jockey, Tiger Wright, and the owner, a Capetown cinema manager, Captain Stodel. His stable connections won thousands backing the English horse down from 10-1 to 3-1. Although placed before, Thorium had never previously won a race. It is the first time a maiden ever won a major handicap in South Africa and possibly anywhere else.

A man of explosive energy, quick but not always inflexible judgment, his absorption in the fight to harness the river has yielded him the nickname "Todd Almighty."

On paper, the job he had cut out for himself appeared massive but fundamentally simple. A great breach nearly a mile wide had been blown in the Yellow River dyke 50 miles west of Kalfeng in June 1938, in an attempt to wipe out the Japanese. The river, thus unleashed, had cascaded over millions of square miles of land, killing thousands and destroying the means of livelihood for untold numbers of poor Chinese.

The problem was to seal this gap and thus force the river, back into its old, constricted course.

UNRRA Material

UNRRA was contributing most of the materials, money and engineering skill for the task. CNIRA, the Chinese distribution agency, and CLARA, its Chinese Communist counterpart, were acting as liaison and supplying most of the manpower.

To the three agencies, Todd outlined his avenue of approach. First, the breach would be constricted to an opening 1,000 yards wide with earthen dykes. A dam of piles and rock would fill the remaining distance. It seemed as simple as that.

In January 1946 the first trainload of supplies and men set out from Shanghai to Hun-yuan-ko, the little village where the breach is located. The project officially had begun.

Work proceeded smoothly but with a quick-moving tempo because nature had set a deadline. By the end of June the terrible floods would begin to rise and if the work had not been completed by then most of the travail would be wiped out, the project postponed.

Dykes Constructed

The earthen dykes were constructed and the gap narrowed to its prescribed 1,000 feet. Then, with huge Douglas firs imported from Oregon, Todd began to build his great trestle dam. The end loomed in sight.

But there was an obstacle, one which would plague all the principals in this struggle against nature for many more months and threaten the entire project with failure.

This problem centred around the old northern river bed. In late spring, the Communists reminded the world and UNRRA in particular that this mass of water could not be diverted into the old course without a number of drastic steps to secure the safety and economic life of the river bed settlers.

In the heat and high excitement of closing the gap, this was an eventuality which had been almost completely forgotten.

Red-Held Area Affected

The Communists now made their argument clear. The river, when it resumed its old course, would be coursing 420 miles to the sea. Fully 90 percent of the area affected would be Communist-controlled. Many of the threatened dykes had fallen into disrepair during the years after the river had been unleashed. Thousands of families were threatened with flood if the river should be funnelled back without repairing the breaks.

More important still was the fact that, over the years, hundreds of thousands of farmers had moved into the old bed, built homes and tilled the fertile land. Those had to be removed, and compensation provided before the waters could be again let loose.

An agreement was made in principle in which the government would turn over a per capita payment of 100,000 Chinese dollars to each settler. In mid-May the Communists asked for payment, and receiving no reply blew up the rock quarry 50 miles north of the gap, kidnapped workers and destroyed compressors.

Later, the workers were returned unharmed and Chou En-lai, the Communist CLARA representative, apologised. But the work had been halted, and the Reds had called dramatic attention to the needs of the settlers.

UNRRA appointed a commission to examine the old bed, and this returned after four weeks to recommend that the gap closure be postponed at least six months.

(To Be Continued To-morrow)

Hogs Must Be Sacrificed

When it's a question of hogs or potatoes in Germany to-day, hogs must go.

The monthly report of the American Military Government, General Joseph McNarney, outlined a drastic hog reduction programme, calling for the slaughtering of all hogs over 200 kilos, reports United Press. The purpose: "To eliminate substantial numbers of hogs in order to safeguard for human consumption the urgently-needed potato supply otherwise used for hog feeding."

DUMB BELLS

REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE
IS YOUR BOSS ENGAGED?
I THINK HE'S MARRIED
PRIVATE



EDINBURGH FESTIVAL IN AUGUST

Further details are now available of the International Festival of Music and Drama to be held in Edinburgh during the three weeks beginning August 24 this year.

The Glyndebourne Opera will present Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro" and Verdi's "Macbeth," and the Old Vic Company will give a two weeks' repertory season of a classical play and a new play specially written by the British playwright, James Bridle.

M. Louis Jouvet's Company de la Theatre de l'Athenes is to present at least one French play. The Sadler's Wells Ballet will give a two weeks' season of Tchaikovsky's "The Sleeping Beauty," beginning August 25. There will also be displays of Scottish regional dancing by troupes of Scottish Command.

Performances will be staged in the King's Theatre, the Royal Lyceum, the Empire Theatre, Usher Hall and the Freemasons' Hall. Official agents who will deal with arrangements for travelling, booking seats and accommodation are Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son, Messrs. Dean and Dawson and the American Express Company. The Festival, which is hoped will become an annual event, in the beautiful Scottish city, one of Britain's chief centres of art and culture, is under patronage of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth and is being organised by a special council headed by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, working in association with the Arts Council of Great Britain.

Bantamweight Title Bout

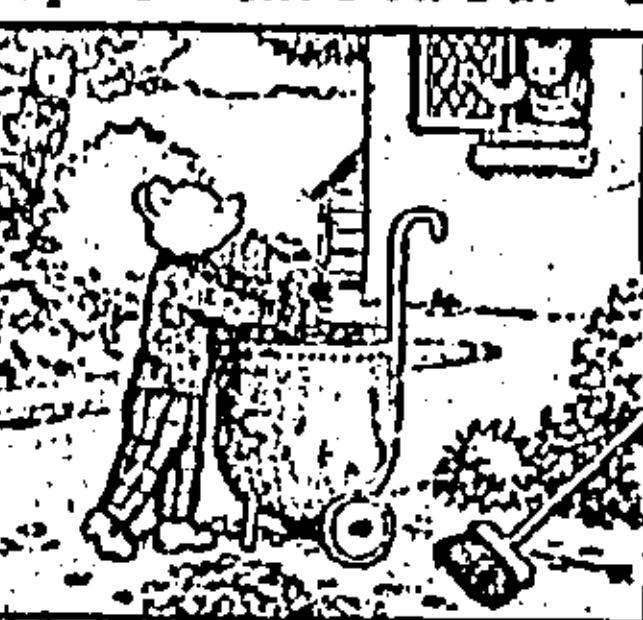
The British bantamweight title changed hands recently, when at Belle Vue, Manchester, Johnny King, the British champion, and Jackie Paterson, the Empire champion, met in a 15 round contest in which both titles were at stake.

King was at a disadvantage, being nine years older than his opponent, and in having to reduce his weight by one-and-a-half stones to come within the bantamweight limit of eight stone six pounds.

For the first three rounds King showed some of his old form, producing some skilful boxing, then he began to tire, and he was made to take some heavy punishment. In the seventh round it was all over. Paterson threw a powerful punch at King's jaw, it connected and he dropped to the canvas, where he was counted out.

Paterson now has the distinction of holding no less than five titles—the World, British, and Empire flyweight, British and Empire bantamweight.

Rupert & the New Pal—1



Autumn is nearly here. Mr. Bear and Rupert are busy in the garden and the little bear has started one of his favourite jobs, sweeping up and collecting the first of the fallen leaves. All at once Mrs. Bear pops her head out of a window and calls him. "Mummy sounds worried," thinks Rupert, but he answers cheerfully and after lifting an armful of leaves into the garden trolley he runs in to see what she wants. "She's sure to want me to run so strand!" he smiles.

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TO-DAY **QUEEN'S** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
BY PUBLIC DEMAND!
THE YEAR'S MOST OUTSTANDING FILM!

JOHN MAUREEN WILLIAM
PAYNE O'HARA BENDIXSentimental
Journey 20c

CENTRAL THEATRE

LAST 5 SHOWS TO-DAY
At 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

MURDER AND SABOTAGE
IN THE BIG WOODS!



Two ex-G.I.s... fast with their fists... fast fighters with the girls... fast lighting a war a clash compared to battling a gang of forest robbers!

Flaming ACTION... Blazing THRILLS... Sure-Fire ENTERTAINMENT!

— TO-MORROW —
Johnny WEISSMULLER Virginia GREY
Buster CRABBE Carol THURSTON
"SWAMP FIRE"

SHOWING
TO-DAY **ALHAMBRA THEATRE** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.



ROBERT STACK BROD CRAWFORD JACKIE COOPER
ANNE GWYNNE RALPH BELLAMY LEO CARRILLO
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

SHOWING
TO-DAY **MAJESTIC** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

Robert TAYLOR Lana TURNER

"JOHNNY EAGER"
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

COMMENCING FRIDAY
GROOR GARSON Walter PIDGEON

"BLOSSOMS IN THE DUST"
IN TECHNICOLOR

BRITISH ATTITUDE REGARDING SUDAN

London, Mar. 11. The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, declared in the House of Commons to-day that it was not right to say that the British Government was trying to get the Sudanese to secede from Egypt, or that the Sudanese would only be able to express themselves when British troops had evacuated the Sudan.

Mr Attlee was replying to Mr Anthony Eden, who had asked at the end of Question Time if he had any announcement to make about the recent statement of the Egyptian Prime Minister on the causes of the breaking off of the negotiations for a revision of the Anglo-Egyptian treaty.

Mr Attlee said: "The statement issued by the Egyptian Prime Minister on the Anglo-Egyptian negotiations stated that the final breaking off of these negotiations might be attributed only to the inability of Egypt to obtain satisfaction on the following two essential points: firstly, the evacuation of British troops from Egypt—this evacuation must be immediate,

complete and not conditioned by the treaty; secondly, maintenance of the unity of Egypt and the Sudan, self-government for the Sudanese and the restoration of Egyptian rights in the administration of the Sudan in order to further the preparation of the Sudan for self-government."

This declaration, Mr Attlee said, could best be judged in the light of the agreement reached between Sir John Pasha and Mr Bevin last October. The agreements were initiated by the two statesmen in London and the Egyptian Government submitted them to the Chamber of Deputies and received a vote of confidence. Thereupon, the Egyptian Government informed the British Government on December 1 that it was ready to sign the evacuation and annexation with evacuation and the Sudan.

Mr Attlee continued: "Mr Bevin in his statement of January 27 made quite clear the sole reason why signature did not in fact take place—namely, the endeavour of the Egyptian Government to construct one phrase in the protocol on the Sudan as meaning that they could rely on the support of the British Government to deny the Sudanese complete freedom of choice when the time came for them to choose their future status."

Evacuation Of Troops

"The British Government had already agreed as part of the above arrangement to complete the evacuation of all troops from Egypt by 1949. That is not an excessive period for the winding up of the immense commitments of the British Army in Egypt, which was that army's main base and which prevented Egypt from being overrun by Nazis."

As has already been indicated by the Foreign Secretary, said Mr Attlee, the British Government is in favour of eventual self-government for the Sudanese, who, when the time comes, should not be denied the right to complete independence, or some sort of association with Egypt on complete union if they wish.

"It is not right to say that the British Government is trying to get the Sudanese to secede from Egypt. It is not correct that the Sudanese are of the same race, language and religion as Egyptians," he declared.

"The Sudanese comprise many races and tribes, Negroes and Arabs. It is not correct to say that the Sudanese would only be able to express themselves when British troops have evacuated the Sudan. They are there in defence of the country and it is incorrect to say that the presence of British or Egyptian troops makes it impossible for the Sudanese to express themselves freely."

Notes Exchanged

Mr Eden: "If I heard the Prime Minister rightly, he said that notes exchanged between the Foreign Secretary and the Egyptian Prime Minister were evidence that this Egyptian claim was completely unfounded."

"I have no doubt that was right, but the House has never seen these notes and will be considering whether any further information can be given to the House, perhaps in the form of a White Paper."

The Prime Minister: "I will certainly look into that and see if it can be done."

Mr Daniel Lipson, Independent: "Will he say whether evacuation of British troops from Egypt is being continued, although the treaty has not been signed?"

Mr Attlee: "Yes, it is being continued."

Later, the Prime Minister corrected his answer to Mr Lipson's question which, he said, might have been misunderstood. He added: "We have of course fallen back on our rights under the 1936 treaty and while we are evacuating from Cairo, we are going to the Canal Zone."

They should persuade the leaders of the nations of their obligation to each agreement ensuring peace, he said. In the last year the first entire year of the Pope's reign in which there was no declared warfare—there has been no marked improvement in the world's outlook for peace, he said.

Moscow Prospects

The Pontiff was evidently, preoccupied over the prospects of the Moscow conference of Foreign Ministers which opened on Monday. He nodded assent to comment that the circumstances of the conference's beginning did not augur well for

ITALY IS GRATEFUL TO PANAMA

Rome, Mar. 11. The Italian Foreign Minister, Count Carlo Sforza, yesterday received the Panamanian Minister, Don Miguel Amado Burgos, and in a 20-minute conversation thanked him for his Government's refusal to adhere to the terms of the Italian peace treaty.

The Minister told the United Press after the meeting: "Relations between Panama and Italy never have been as cordial as now." He said Panama would stand by its declaration when war ended in 1949, and therefore any Government considers all agreements taken during the war terminated."

He said Panama now is studying a plan to admit 100,000 Italian immigrants to foster the close relations between the two countries.

Count Sforza told the Minister he wished to thank Panama on behalf of the Italian Government as well as himself, and said: "The attitude of the Panama Government on the treaty shows the small powers are demonstrating in a certain sense that they have a greater sense of international justice than the greater powers."

He said he hoped to "revive the treaties existing between Panama and Italy before the war," and also intends "to give all possible attention to lands in Panama donated to the Italian Government and neglected by the Fascists."

Count Sforza added that the Geographic Military Institute of Florence would present Panama with a new set of maps of Panama, and a Foreign Office spokesman said it was hoped the "attitude of Ecuador and Panama will lead to a modification of the treaty."—United Press.

FLOODS IN POLAND

Warsaw, Mar. 11. Tributaries of the Oder, San and Vistula Rivers broke their banks to-day.

Fifty Silesian villages were evacuated, 30,000 persons are flooded out of the Klasko-Neisse valley and 40,000 evacuees are being moved from Warsaw suburbs. Traffic is suspended between Cracow and points south, while 12 bridges were washed away by the San and Vistula Rivers.—United Press.

Snow & Floods In England

London, Mar. 11. Snow in the north and floods in the south are disrupting road and rail communications throughout Britain to-day as temperatures swung violently from cold to mild and back to cold again.

Yesterday's rapid thaw has swollen many rivers which are rising rapidly—in Kent threatening the most widespread areas for years. Thousands of acres in Wiltshire are under water and roads are impassable in the Home Counties.

Forecasters say the extreme north had snow to-day and still more is forecast for to-morrow.

London's temperature which reached a peak of 48 degrees at one o'clock in the morning, had dropped to 34 by eight o'clock and between then and midnight rose only two degrees.—Reuter.

POPE'S HOPES FOR WORLD PEACE NOT ENCOURAGED BY EVENTS

BY CHARLES GUPTILL

Vatican City, Mar. 12. On the eve of the eighth anniversary of his coronation, Pope Pius XII told the Associated Press that the nations must surrender some of their sovereign rights if a just and lasting peace is to be achieved.

They should persuade the leaders of the nations of their obligation to each agreement ensuring peace, he said. In the last year the first entire year of the Pope's reign in which there was no declared warfare—there has been no marked improvement in the world's outlook for peace, he said.

The Pontiff was evidently, preoccupied over the prospects of the Moscow conference of Foreign Ministers which opened on Monday. He nodded assent to comment that the circumstances of the conference's beginning did not augur well for

Attackers Beaten Off In Pearl Harbour War Games

Honolulu, Mar. 11. Showing how an alert defence might have turned the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour into a crushing defeat, the naval war games here ended with a sweeping victory for the island defenders who "put out of action" two attacking carriers, the Princeton and Tarawa, and badly damaged a third, the Boxer, before they could launch their planes.

Most of the attacking planes were "destroyed" before they reached the island. The games were marred by one casualty when a Marine Corsair fighter crashed into the sea 35 miles off the coast and the pilot was drowned.

The attack closely paralleled the Japanese attack, but this time land-based defence elements were thoroughly on the alert and repulsed the attackers with only 65 Army, Navy and Marine planes plus anti-aircraft batteries.—United Press.

"Nasty Little Word" At Kesselring Trial

Venice, Mar. 11. Field Marshal Albert Kesselring to-day told the British tribunal trying him for war crimes that he wanted to shield Lt-Col Alexander P. Scotland, British agent who once served in the German Army, from possible reprisals for "being so nice to me" in London.

His statement came during a one-hour argument over the translation of a single German participle, "erbetenen," variously interpreted as "seeking" or "requesting."

The argument began when the prosecution said Kesselring had "asked" his sub-commanders for copies of their anti-partisan orders. The disputed word was used by Kesselring in a written statement to Lt-Col Scotland in London last year.

The Marshal denied the prosecution's assertion and said he had received from Col Scotland, not his subordinate commanders, all documents connected with his case.

Leaders Of Nazi Industry To Be Tried

Nuremberg, Mar. 11.

War-crimes attorneys disclosed to-day that the indictment against the leaders of the vast I. G. Farben industrial combine will be filed with the military tribunal within the next month.

This will be the second trial of industrialists on war-crimes charges. The first, against Friedrich Flick and his associates, will come to court within the next ten days. Arraignments of Flick is expected on Saturday.

All but one or two of the defendants in the Farben case are in gaol here. The most recent arrival is Otto Ambros, former director of Farben who supervised the concern's systematic robbery and gasoline development and production.

He had been held in the French zone until now. Ambros also is involved in the use of slave labour and poison gas at Auschwitz concentration camp, the attorneys said.

Among the other defendants will be Hermann Schmitz, George von Schindler and Carl Kuchel, also Farben directors.—United Press.

EPSTEIN ON U.S. POLICY IN CHINA

New York, Mar. 11.

The Left Wing correspondent, Israel Epstein, writing in "Soviet Russia To-day" on the Soviet policy in China, said the issue in China is not Communism but "feudal fascism versus democracy."

He said the United States, while championing the policy of supporting a united and democratic China, gave material aid to the Kuomintang even while Gen. George Marshall was in China on his mission of mediation between the Central Government and Communist forces.

"As a result," the Chinese people in their majority now believe that the purpose of American intervention is to subjugate China to United States arms through a government dependent entirely on American support."

He claimed that the Soviet Government has not given material aid to either side but has supported unification of China and has maintained diplomatic relations with the Central Government.

Intended in Hongkong Epstein is the Far Eastern editor of the Allied Labour News and spent many years in China. He worked as a newspaperman in Hongkong, and was interned at Stanley after hostilities. He later escaped to Free China.

Viewing the history of Russian and American dealings with China, Epstein said Russia would naturally want a friendly government across its Siberian frontier. He said of the United States policy in China that it had cost American taxpayers \$3,000,000,000 and the Chinese people a great number of lives, but had settled nothing.

The article said the Moscow conference of Foreign Ministers should give an opportunity to discuss the Far East. It said: "Real observance of agreements already reached should not only improve Soviet-American relations, but will bring peace in China—perhaps through joint mediation."—United Press.

THE PARKERS



by HODGES

CATHOLICS ON EMIGRATION PRINCIPLES

Rome, Mar. 11. The Italian Catholic Action Committee, outlined to-day its principles on emigration, and urged that international law be established to regulate shifting populations in regard to property, family culture and religion.

The Committee recognised man's right to migrate at will, but regarding agencies set up to direct migration, said: "No institution, whether private or public in character, is entitled to monopoly because such institutions may easily be guided by a political party or by biased motives."

Obviously referring to recent charges that the Italian Confederation of Labour was monopolising Italian emigration, the Committee said: "The Catholic Church and its organs, in view of their mission and actual world organisation, must be recognised and given full freedom in assisting emigrants, since history and experience testify to the benefits deriving to emigrants from such assistance under its many aspects—religious, moral, sanitary and economic."—United Press.

Martin Behrman Protest

The Hague, Mar. 11. It was stated authoritatively here to-day that the United States Government has sent a note to the Dutch Government about the seizure of the United States freighter Martin Behrman by Dutch naval forces off Cherbon, Java.

The note follows the representations made in January by Dr Stanley Hornbeck, United States Ambassador to Holland.

Before replying to the note, the Dutch Government is awaiting the receipt of further details from the Netherlands Indies Government.—Reuter.

TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

(Continued from Page 1)

"But we are going to tackle this job with 17 or 18 countries simultaneously, a thing never before attempted except at the Tower of Babel."

"The success or failure of the Geneva meeting will affect the whole economic future of the world and not only of the 17 or 18 governments there represented."

"It will set the tone for good or ill for future international trading arrangements."

"Given a wide and statesmanlike view of our obligations to our own people and to the world, we can, I am convinced, accommodate our own interests to each other's needs, both within the Commonwealth and beyond it in the world at large."

"We must see to it that the contribution which we make as members of the British Commonwealth to the success of the Preparatory Committee and the larger conference to which it is directed will not fall short of our past contribution to the progress of the world."

The talks after to-day's formal session will be private.

There was much comment in the lobbies to-day on the line India might pursue after the outstanding part she took in the international Trade Conference in London last November.—Reuter.

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